

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A dental crown configured to be readily mountable in a patient's mouth as part of a treatment of primary teeth and permanent molars, the dental crown having a natural appearance and color of a vital tooth and ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

a thermoplastic material layer configured to define a tooth shaped top surface;
and

~~depending flexible side surfaces extending continuously around edges of said from said tooth shaped top surface and extending continuously from a tooth shaped top surface end of the dental crown to an end opposite said tooth shaped top surface end towards a bottom portion of the dental crown, said dental crown being formed of a thermoplastic material enabling layer being configured to enable dimensional stability and sufficient resilience of the crown, and~~

a bottom portion of at least one of said depending flexible continuous side surfaces comprising an undercut defining an inwardly directed inner surface of said bottom portion ~~extending to said opposite end of the crown, the resilience of the flexible depending side surfaces and the~~ undercut made in the bottom portion of at least one of the flexible side surface surfaces, enabling the dental crown to be directly mounted on a primary tooth or permanent molar.

2. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic material comprises a polymer selected from polyacetal, polyacrylate, polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA), polyamide, polyaryletherketone (PAEK), polyetherketone (PEK), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polyetherimide (PEI), polyethersulfone (PES), polysulfone (PSU), and mixtures thereof.
3. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 2, wherein said polymer is a homo- or co-polymer of acetal resin, polyetheretherketone (PEEK) or polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA).
4. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic material comprises at least one of the following: fibers, fillers, pigments and reinforcements.
5. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by injection molding.
6. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 5, produced by a mass production injection molding method, said mass production injection molding method comprising:
 - providing a multi-element mold; and
 - employing the multi-element mold to injection mold a dental crown from a thermoplastic polymer material.

7. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 6, wherein said multi-element mold includes an ejector, which is being operated to eject the molded crown following opening the multi-element mold.
8. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by compression molding.
9. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by machining.
10. (Currently amended) A permanent dental crown configured to be readily mounted in a patient's mouth as part of treatment of primary teeth and permanent molars,
the dental crown ~~being made~~ consisting of a layer of acetal homopolymer resin
~~and having a natural appearance and color of a vital tooth,~~
~~the crown having~~ configured to define a tooth shaped top surface and depending flexible side surfaces extending continuously around edges of said tooth-shaped from the
~~top surface and extending continuously from a tooth-shaped top surface end of the dental~~
~~crown to an end opposite said tooth-shaped top surface end~~ towards a bottom portion of
the dental crown,
said layer of the acetal homopolymer resin dental crown being configured to
provide dimensional stability ~~dimensionally stable and having~~ and desired sufficient
resilience of the crown, and
at least one of said depending flexible continuous side surfaces being formed
within the bottom portion of the crown with an undercut defining an inwardly directed inner

surface of said bottom portion, the resilience of the flexible side surfaces and the undercut thereby enabling the dental crown to be readily mountable on a primary tooth or permanent molar.

11. (Canceled)